



## MONTHLY MEETING Friday September 16, 2016

7:30pm

Our Saviors Lutheran Church  
1035 Carol Lane Lafayette

License Testing 6pm

DX Interest Group 6:30pm

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## THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM



Pacificon Chair Misa Siemons will brief club members on all the exciting programs and events scheduled for PACIFICON, this year's ARRL Pacific Division Convention in San Ramon presented by our club's hardworking volunteers.

*Watch the PACIFICON 2016 Promotional Video produced by Randy Hall, K7AGE, on YouTube at:*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmJ86wvY4TU>

73, Vice President Will Dickson, WB6YGJ



**Andy Schneit**  
**KJ6UTZ**

**Alex Schneit**  
**KJ6YNR**

## AMATEUR RADIO ON THE ROAD



Over the 2016 Labor Day weekend, N4DLA operated a portable HF station from this 1996 Dodge Caravan in the hills above Arroyo Grande, California. Using only a WD4BUM Hamstick® mobile antenna on the van's roof and 100 watts output on 20 meter SSB from an Icom IC706MKIIG transceiver, he was able to work across the United States as well as Hawaii, Uruguay, Brazil and even T32AZ on Kirimati (alias Christmas) Island in the South Pacific. On the high hilltop in the distance is the off-season home of Chicago White Sox Baseball Manager Robin Ventura, a Santa Maria native. Alas, the former major league all-star and Olympic gold medalist is not a licensed amateur.

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB YAHOO GROUP.  
DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING *THE CARRIER* IN **FULL COLOR** AS WELL AS SHARE INFORMATION WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AT:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mdarc>

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**Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX**  
P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
(925) 288-1730

*The Carrier* is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

**President** - Mike Patterson, N6JGA  
**Vice President** - Will Dickson, WB6YGI  
**Secretary** - Dick Fletcher, AF9RF  
**Treasurer** - Cathi Walton, KJ6YNO

**Technical Committee Chair**  
Jim Siemons, AF6PU

**Directors At Large**  
Trevor Hall, WA6JAU Mitchell Boyce, W8DOD  
Janice Fujii, KG6VTD Francis O'Leary, KF6FRJ

**Emergency Coordinator** - Ron Bunch, W4FEK

**PACIFICON 2016**  
Chair: Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE  
Registration: Tom Deeble, KA6SIP & Debbie Deeble  
Treasurer: Jim Siemons, AF6PU  
Secretary: Pete Harris, KE6ZIW  
Web Page: Mike Patterson, N6JGA

**Membership Chair** - Tom Deeble, KA6SIP  
mdarcmembership@mdarc.org

Website - David Schild, KK6CQX  
Repeater Trustee - Jay Caldis, KT6Y  
Education & Training Chair - John Primus, AF6RJ  
License Testing - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
Public Service - Pete Harris, KE6ZIW  
Outreach Coordinator - Jim Siemons, AF6PU  
Field Day Chair - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
Refreshments: Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV  
Holiday Party - Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE  
Trailer - Patrick Miller, KK6DBX

**The Carrier** Newsletter  
Editor, Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA  
n4dla\_cs245@yahoo.com  
Proofreader - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

Digital Media - David Molstad WB0HNY

*Amateur Television Help and Information:*  
John Schuler, W6DTV JOHNQRZ@aol.com  
Fred Coe, WB6ASU wb6asu@icloud.com





## PRESIDENT'S QTC

Pacificon is almost upon us! If you haven't registered yet, do so now. The deadline for early bird registration is only two weeks away. After that date, you'll need to register at the door and at a higher price. The conference continues many of our most popular events, such as forums, vendors, the Antenna Seminar, One-Day License class and much more. Our keynote speaker at the Banquet Saturday night will be the CEO of the ARRL, Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. A ham for 50 years, his career has taken him through multiple fields, including broadcast, finance and academia.

Gordon West, WB6NOA and Bob Heil, K9EID will be returning again this year. And we have some new events. We're hosting a one-day license class for people holding a Technician Class license and wanting to upgrade to General Class. Also, MDARC has our October club meeting at Pacificon on Friday night every year, but this year's meeting will be a "Ham Radio Quiz Show". As panelists, we'll have Bob Heil, Gordo West, and John Bigley (ARRL Nevada Section Manager) answering questions from our moderator and the audience. Come on over and see if you can stump the experts. It's going to be a lot of fun.

We're also introducing a one-day session for upgrading your Technician Class license to General Class. If that's something you've wanted to do but never got around to it, plan to take the day off work, Friday, Oct. 14 and knock it out in one day. Don't miss these and all the other events at Pacificon in San Ramon, Oct. 14-16.

At last month's meeting, I announced the formation of a Nomination Committee to find candidates for our annual Board of Directors election. They are now requesting candidates all officer positions on the Board and two of the four Director positions. Some current members will be retiring from the Board this year. And their positions need to be filled by willing and able people who want to help the Club continue being as strong as it has been for so long. Please consider putting your hat in the ring for the Board this year.

Our Education committee is charging ahead with it General Class course, and will finish up in just about a month. The Team will take a break for Pacificon, then start work on some Auxiliary courses and special topics of interest to many of us. If you have a particular subject you'd like a one-evening class on, let John Primus, AF6RJ, know about it.

Cathi Walton, KJ6YNO and our Treasurer, has been working on a long-term financial plan. She's started receiving some needed input from our Committee chairs and is awaiting information for others. We hope to have a basic plan to present to the membership by the year-end.

The end-of year holiday season doesn't really start for about two and a half months; unless you're a retail merchant, in which case it starts around Halloween now days. So it may seem a bit early to be thinking about year-end celebrations. But I do want to put out a "save the date" alert now. The Club's annual Christmas Banquet will be held on Friday evening, December 2nd at Zio Fraedo's restaurant in Pleasant Hill. This is the same location as last year. Mark your calendar now, so you don't schedule any conflicts for that date. Remember, there will not be a regular Club meeting in December, as the Banquet replaces it.

Our Technical Committee has been making a few trips up the hill, tweaking and tuning our systems to make sure they're in top shape for Pacificon. They updated the DATV controller, installed a camera and thermometer in the vault, checked and tuned the APRS digipeater and several other chores. All's in good shape. They have settled on a plan to improve Internet access to North Peak and should be able to implement it in the next two or three months.

There are three Public Service events left this year, the Walnut Festival parade and two bike rides. Practice your net skills by working these events. See our Repeater web page at <http://www.mdarc.org/activities/repeaters> for details.

Hopefully, you see it each month on other pages in the Carrier. Remember to shop on Amazon Smile at: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059>; and please consider volunteering for the Club. No experience necessary. Our Club and all the activities we do can't exist unless you volunteer.

73 until next time,

Mike Patterson, N6JGA  
President





# U.S House of Representatives Passes H.R. 1301



On September 12, 2016, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1301, “The Amateur Radio Parity Act.” It now moves to the U.S. Senate for further consideration. The companion Senate bill S-1685 is no longer on the agenda as H.R. 1301 replaces it. On September 13, 2016, ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, urged ARRL members to e-mail their United States Senators in support of H.R. 1301 through the following web page:

<https://www.arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

Since the bill was passed on a voice vote, we don’t know who voted for the measure. According to data from [www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov), the bill had 126 co-sponsors in the House **but only 11 of California’s 45 congressional representatives were co-sponsors.** In contrast, 13 of Texas’s 36 representatives and 13 of New York’s 27 representatives were co-sponsors. Further analysis reveals the only California co-sponsors from districts outside of Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties were Marin County’s Jared Huffman and Merced County’s Jeff Denham. Nevada Section did a great job as 2 of their state’s 4 representatives were co-sponsors...but Hawaii had none. This glaring omission indicates that the amateur radio operators in the ARRL Pacific Division need to do a better job of interfacing with their congressional representatives. Otherwise, future congressional support for legislation affecting amateur radio may be difficult to obtain in our division.

— Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA

WHEN  
ALL  
ELSE  
FAILS...



AMATEUR  
RADIO



# General Meeting Minutes August 19, 2016

Presided over by Mike Patterson, N6JGA, President

Reported by Richard Fletcher, AF9RF, Secretary

Meeting location: Our Saviors Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Lane Lafayette, Ca.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:32PM PDT. A pledge of allegiance was performed at this time.

The Minutes from our August Board meeting were approved by club members.

## Officers Reports

President: Reminded everyone that the elections to fill club positions are upcoming.

Vice President: Reported that the programs for the remaining meetings of the year are filled.

Secretary: The August Board meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer: Reported on monthly resulting balances as well as the Pacificon statuses.

Lauren Stiles, WA6CIE reported that he has some hard ideas for the reformation of the club trailer. It is currently parked at the Salvation Army complex in Concord. Members spoke with him about possible uses and ways of supporting it.

AF6RJ reported a success for the recent training session. He invited everyone to attend future sessions for training or helping out. He stated that we have a current Extra License class with 25 students enrolled. More students were called for. This evening's testing produced four new technician and two general licenses.

Pacificon: It was reported that everything is "pretty well set" for the week of the convention. At this time Jim, AF6PU, reported handling "lots" of telephone calls from the public about clubs and ham radio in general. He also demonstrated the new Lixon 25 watt radio that is priced at \$250.00.

A call for unfinished business went unanswered as did a call for new business. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm pst.

What followed was a program presented by Klaus Berkner dealing with FLDIGI and related software.

Respectfully submitted by:

Richard Fletcher, AF9RF  
Secretary

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**When you purchase at Amazon dot com smile, a portion of your purchase is donated to our club.**

**Go to:**  
**<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059>**





# HAM RADIO OUTLET

14 STORE BUYING POWER!

**ICOM**



## IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



## IC-7200 | HF Transceiver

- 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP • AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanking • USB Port for PC Control



## IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

- HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



## ID-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver

- Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function

## ID-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz\*\* • AM/FM/FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



**KENWOOD**



## TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function



## TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

- V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions



## TM-V71A | 2M/440 DualBand

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch



## TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

## TH-F6A | 2M/220/440

- Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories • Li-Ion Battery



**YAESU**  
The radio



## FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver

- 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP



## FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



## FT-450D | A100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in • 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



## FTM-400DR | 2M/440 Mobile

- Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band

## FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



5 Ways to Shop!

- RETAIL LOCATIONS - Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE - Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX - All store locations
- ONLINE - WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- MAIL - All store locations

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(877) 892-1749

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PHOENIX, AZ  
(800) 559-7388

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(877) 455-8750

BURBANK, CA  
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(800) 444-7927

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ONLINE STORE  
WWW.HAMRADIO.COM

New Store!

Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.



## The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

[www.mdarc.org](http://www.mdarc.org)



## FIRST CLASS



# NEXT MONTH: PACIFICON !



Affiliated  
Club

<https://www.facebook.com/mdarc.org>

### W6CX Nets

Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm Amateur Television Net 147.060+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057  
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

**D-STAR 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz**

<https://w6cx.dstargateway.org/> Digital ATV Output 1244.500

Digital ATV Input 1292.500

ATV Inputs: 1289.25 MHz AM; 1270.000 FM pl 192.8 915.0 AM 427.0 AM

**ATV Internet Stream: <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>**

### Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 146.355+ (77.0 PL)

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.2 PL)

or 147.735+ (107.2 PL)

or 145.410 -- (107.2 PL)

### Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

## September and October 2016 Club Calendar

Friday September 16, 2016	7:30pm	MDARC General Meeting - Our Saviors Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
Saturday October 1, 2016	8:00 am	MDARC Technical Committee Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor Street, Pittsburg
Monday October 3, 2016	7:30pm	MDARC Board Meeting Black Bear Restaurant, 700 Bancroft Avenue, Walnut Creek
Friday October 14, 2016	TBA	MDARC General Meeting at PACIFICON 2016 Marriott Hotel, 2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon